FBIS DAILY REPORT

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GUEILER WARNS OF DANGER TO 'DEMOCRATIC PROCESS'

PY251212 Buenos Aires Latin in Spanish 2224 GMT 24 Dec 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 24 Dec (Latin)--Interim President Lidia Gueiler warned tonight that the Bolivian democratic process "is in danger" and is facing "all kinds of risks," but assured that she will defend her government "at any cost."

The chief of state delivered a Christmas message by radio and television network explaining that the task of every Bolivian is to definitely consolidate a final return to a constitutional regime.

The president said: "Let us think of the social justice which must always prevail, the understanding which must unite us. But if injustice, fear and ambition prevail and the most basic norms of coexistence are disregarded, the road to anarchy, which is just a step away from national disintegration, will be opened."

She said that "we still have a difficult and a dangerous road filled with obstacles ahead of us. The progress toward a great destiny is not easy because it is necessary to overcome all kinds of risks, to quiet interested voices which seek to push us toward confusion, uncertainty and desperation."

She added that "our democratic process is in danger" and that "we must prevent or minimize this situation."

President Gueiler said that "firm decision and indomitable energy are necessary to insure a state of law. The final goal can never be reached with hesitation. The best efforts can be ruined with doubt and distrust."

She emphasized that "no woman or child will shed a single tear nor will any man be threatened by repression during our administration."

She added: "We beg every Bolivian to defend with all his energy our democracy which is exposed to thousands of obstacles and threats."

In a clear reference to the country's economic problems, President Gueiler admitted that "the current situation is one of shortage and poverty. We must carry the burden inherited from oppression, destruction and waste."

In conclusion, she said: "We are committed to all Bolivians, without distinction, but we are more committed to the deprived majority to whom we offer our tireless resolve to sustain the constitutional regime at any cost."

PERSONS INVOLVED IN PLOT FACE TRIAL

PY251739 La Paz INFOBOL Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1939 GMT 24 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Interior Minister Jorge Selum Vaca Diez announced that the people arrested last week for taking part in "a plot" will be put on trial.

It was announced that several persons were involved in the plot and that they were identified as members of the Bolivian Socialist Falange (FSB), Gaston Moreira sector.

SENATE REJECTS GENERAL ELECTIONS PROPOSAL

PY211422 La Paz INFOBOL Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0020 GMT 21 Dec 79 PY

[Text] The Bolivian Senate yesterday rejected the proposal to hold general elections in 1980 and decided to postpone the discussion of the issue until the next session period. The unanimous position was that a call for general elections would be unconstitutional.

COB Leader's Demand

PY211603 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Dec 79 PY

[Excerpt] Juan Lechin Oquendo, executive secretary of the Bolivian Labor Central [COB], has harshly attacked the congressmen who won office on the coattails of their presidential candidates. He said that it is not possible to accept the self-prolongation of a discredited legislative branch and that general elections should be held next year.

U.S. SALE OF TIN OPPOSED BY GOVERNMENT

Congress Abstains From Agreement

PY211356 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Dec 79 PY

[Excerpt] In a special session yesterday the National Congress resolved that Bolivia should abstain from signing the sixth international tin agreement as an act of protest against the authorization granted by the U.S. Congress for the sale of 35,000 tons of tin from the noncommerical strategic reserves of the United States.

Official Scores Sale

PY221824 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Dec 79 PY

[Text] The dumping of the 35,000 tons of tin by the U.S. General Service Administration is a flagrant contradiction of the much-vaunted principle of respect for the human rights of nations, which are being crushed under the interests of imperialism, and it will cause Bolivia to lose $40 million annually.

You will now hear the knowledgeable opinon of Hugo Zapata, manager of the Mining Corporation of Bolivia [COMIBOL], who explains the repercussions of dumping noncommercial tin reserves on the international market. It will basically unsettle the present tin price on the international market, which is now optimum, and be a deadly blow to our critical economic and financial situation.

[Begin Zapata recording] [indistinct passage]

The U.S. Government and people are engaged in an election race in which the economic problems of the Bolivian people are of no concern. Under these circumstances they are insensitive to these problems, and they naturally deal with their own problems first. [indistinct passage] [end recording]

The situation is very delicate and serious, in view of the fact that mining is one of the mainstays of our economy. The rejection of the sale of the tin reserves must be unanimous. It is something like the defense of our very existence, of our democratic progress and our rights as a nation and a people.

OFFICIALS RECEIVE 'DEFERENTIAL TREATMENT' IN HAVANA

PY251845 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1720 GMT 25 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 25 Dec (LATIN)--The Chilean Foreign Ministry reported here today that Cuban officials gave deferential treatment to the Chilean delegation which attended the recent Group of 77 meeting held in Havana.

According to the communique, the Chilean delegates were invited to a reception which Cuban President Fidel Castro Ruz attended.

The Foreign Ministry communique indicated that during the meeting Chile emphasized cooperation between the developing countries aimed at achieving greater industrialization and pointed out that the growth of nations will depend basically on the effective use of productive resources, savings incentives and investments, on the improvement of human resources and on the use of the most suitable technology.

NAVY TO REDUCE COMBAT, ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

PY202244 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1826 GMT 20 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 20 Dec (LATIN)--The Chilean Navy officially announced today a reduction in its combat and administrative personnel to "improve the standard of living of all Chileans." The announcement is included in a communique released here, but it does not mention the number of personnel to be retired. It indicates that the resolution was adopted by the government which is "aware of the urgency for a solution to the problems of social order that affect the country."

According to the content of the declaration, the savings through the reduction of personnel will be invested in the government's social plans. It is also indicated that the reduction will be made mainly from naval reserve personnel who were called to service after the 11 September 1973 military movement that overthrew the deceased former Socialist president, Salvador Allende.

12 CHARGED WITH VIOLATING 'POLITICAL RECESS'

PY212007 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1527 GMT 21 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 21 Dec (LATIN)--The Interior Ministry reported today that the government has asked the court to try 12 former officials of the defunct Allende regime for violating the political recess. The group was charged with "flagrant violation" of the prevailing political recess imposed on the country in October 1973 because they disseminated reports through the local press on political-partisan activities in favor of leftist groups which supported the late President Allende (1970-1973).

On Wednesday the government made similar charges against five lawyers who disclosed the existence of a new political organization called socialist democratic discussion groups.

BRIEFS

OFFICIALS ASSUME DUTIES--Gen Sergio Badiola today assumed his duties as government secretary general. He replaces Gen Julio Fernandez, who will return to former position as chief of the government junta advisory council. General Badiola is being replaced by Lt Col Oscar Vargas Guzman, who today in a separate ceremony assumed his duties as director of civil organizations. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 24 Dec 79 PY]

GOVERNMENT REJECTS NICARAGUA'S CLAIM TO ISLANDS, KEYS

PA202214 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 20 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Colombia, astonished, today rejected the action of the Sandinist Government of Nicaragua in claiming sovereignty over the San Andres and Providencia Islands and Roncador, Serrana and Quitasueno keys. The Colombian Government described the decision as an act of international treachery.

Several former foreign ministers and outstanding international experts consulted by Radio Cadena Nacional said they were astonished to hear about the law issued by that Central American government. They all agreed that this is a bad move by the new Nicaraguan leaders.

Former Foreign Minister Alfredo Vasquez Carrizosa said that by virtue of Law 52 of 1973 the Colombian congress approved a treaty he himself signed on behalf of Colombia with the U.S. Government to define the sovereignty of Roncador, Serrana and Quitasueno. However, he said he was surprised because the U.S. Senate has not ratified the treaty and pointed out that apparently the multinational companies are exerting pressure. Vasquez Carrizosa insisted that Colombia and Nicaragua settled their maritime rights in 1928 so Nicaragua is actually creating this conflict when there are already two treaties on this issue and Colombia must demand that they be respected. He said if Nicaragua insists on ignoring these treaties, it will be a case of international treachery.

Liberal Party Congressman Alvaro Garcia Herrera, member of the international policy advisory committee to the government, said this is an international maneuver by the Sandinist government. I cannot understand why, in the midst of its own political crisis, Nicaragua wants to create a territorial dispute with Colombia, Garcia Herrera said. He insisted that Colombia's rights over San Andres and the keys are not subject to discussion. Colombia cannot accept any dispute over its territories, the Liberal senator concluded.

International expert Carlos Holguin Holguin did not give much importance to the Nicaraguan Government junta's decision. He said Colombia's rights over the keys are not negotiable. It is a bad move, he concluded.

The island authorities today told Radio Cadena Nacional that the people of San Andres are prouder today than ever before of being Colombian and rejected Nicaragua's claims.

Claim Called 'Naive'

PA230218 Paris AFP in Spanish 0121 GMT 23 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 22 Dec (AFP)--Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe today described the Nicaraguan claim to the Colombian islands of San Andres and three keys in the Caribbean as a naive remark. In a statement on the "Telemundo" television program, Uribe said the Nicaraguan leaders know nothing about international law or geography and consequently the importance of the claim must be played down.

The Colombian foreign minister said his country has current and intangible [as received] rights over the islands and the keys of Serrana, Roncador and Quitasueno. He said treaties are not abolished by press statements or arrogant postures and that innocents have jumped the gun in Nicaragua.

He added that he met with Honduran Foreign Minister Eliseo Perez in San Andres last Thursday but refused to say whether the Nicaraguan sovereignty claim over the islands and the keys was discussed.

DOMINGO LAINO RELEASE, ARRIVAL HOME REPORTED

PY220208 Asuncion Radio Paraguay in Spanish 0200 GMT 22 Dec 79 PY

[Text] It has been reported that the government has ordered the release of Domingo Laino, who has been confined in Mbuyapey. Laino, it has been reported, was brought to Paraguay by authorities from Mbuyapey and from there he traveled to his home in Asuncion, where he arrived tonight.

Union Leader Also Released

PY211600 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 21 Dec 79 p 21 PY

[Excerpt] Union leader Emigdio Colman Nunez was released late last night after being held at the police investigations department since 12 December.

Colman Nunez, 56 years of age, was arrested at President Stroessner International Airport after returning from Caracas, Venezuela, where he attended a congress of the Latin American Workers Central (CLAT), an organization of which he is a member.

BRIEFS

LOAN FOR JETS APPROVED--The Chamber of Deputies has approved a loan of $40 million for the purchase of Brazilian Xavante jets for the Paraguayan Air Force. The chamber also approved a $5 million FRG loan for agriculture. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 21 Dec 79 p 12 PY]

COST OF LIVING--The Central Bank has reported that the cost of living during the first 10 months of this year rose 28.7 percent and that the loss of purchasing power of the guarani during the same period amounted to 22.3 percent. [Asuncion HOY in Spanish 20 Dec 79 p 8 PY]

ECONOMIC FIGURES--Paraguayan Minister of Industries and Commerce Delfin Ugarte Centurion yesterday described the nation's economic situation as satisfactory although the GDP registered only a 9-percent increase, compared to last year's growth of 10.5 percent. The minister also admitted a 26-percent inflation rate, compared to 10.5 percent last year. He said that foreign reserves amount to $600 million. Imports increased from $317,700,000 last year to $344,000,486 this year. In the meantime exports grew from $256,000,984 to $274,000,000. The main buyer of Paraguyan goods is still the FRG, while Brazil is its main source of imports. [Asuncion HOY in Spanish 21 Dec 79 p 8 PY]

COMMUNIQUE ON 13 DEC INCIDENT AT HAVANA EMBASSY

PA221814 Caracas VENPRES in Spanish 0250 GMT 22 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 21 Dec (VENPRES)--Through a Foreign Ministry communique, the Venezuelan Government today confirmed that the Cuban police opened fire toward the direction of the Venezuelan Embassy in Havana. It described this action as contrary to the norms of international law. The Venezuelan Government also expressed its condemnation of the way the persons sought asylum by forcing their way into the Venezuelan Embassy in Havana. The text of the foreign ministry communique is as follows:

On 13 December 1979 a group of Cuban citizens used a vehicle of the Cuban Health Ministry to force their way into the residence of the Venezuelan ambassador in Havana. Members of the National Revolutionary Police of Cuba who were stationed in the street in front of the residence opened fire on the vehicle and its occupants and continued to shoot toward the inside of the residence after the vehicle had already entered it. As a result of the shooting, Cuban citizen Jorge Martinez Concepcion was killed and the survivors have requested the protection of the Venezuelan Embassy. In view of thos events, the Venezuelan Government's position is as follows:

1. It is an indisputable fact that on 13 December members of the National Revolutionary Police of Cuba who were on duty consciously opened fire toward the inside of the residence of the Venezuelan ambassador.

2. It is no less indisputable that such conduct is contrary to the norms of international law recognized by all countries and constitutes a disregard for diplomatic inviolability which has been established to protect the dignity and security of sovereign states.

3. The Venezuelan Government does not believe that the members of the police acted in the aforementioned manner through instructions of the Cuban Government but even in the probable case that they exceeded those instructions, the Cuban Government's responsibility is compromised by acts contrary to law which are carried out by members of its police while on duty.

4. In view of the aforementioned reasons, the Venezuelan Government has filed a formal protest over those events, convinced that to act any other way would be to permit the establishement of dangerous, unacceptable and harmful precedents not only for Venezuela but for Cuba and all civilized countries.

5. Therefore, the Venezuelan Government expects a clear and unequivocal reply from the Cuban Government regarding these specific events, that is, the shooting toward the inside of the Venezuelan ambassador's residence by members of the National Revolutionary Police of Cuba.

6. The Venezuelan Government expresses its condemnation of the means used by the people who forced their way into the Venezuelan Embassy.

OUSTED PRESIDENT GUEVARA ARCE DISCUSSES BOLIVIAN SITUATION

PA202229 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 1530 GMT 20 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpts] The present Bolivian situation is at a kind of crossroads; on one hand, the country might return to the democratic process, and on the other, it may experience another coup d'etat before May. General elections would have to be held in Bolivia in May or June. Ousted President Walter Guevara Arce has made these exclusive statements to newsman Ernesto Vega.

Guevara Arce has arrived in this country on a friendly visit. He showed a certain optimism about his political life [vigencia politica] and his immediate future plans: [Begin recording] Well, it is possible I have not truly lost my political validity if I compare myself to what happened to other persons, organizations, fronts and parties. The 16 days of the military coup destroyed many things in Bolivia aside from the democratic opening. Many traditional parties and political figures were humiliated. I believe this did not happen to me because during the 2 tragic weeks of the coup I was able to voice the protest of the Bolivian people, and I think I achieved that to a certain extent. Evidently I was supported by the people, who backed my statements against and resistance to the coup, and by the great solidarity of other friendly countries, particularly Venezuela. I believe this had a great effect in eliminating the coup. So it is possible that some validity is still left as a result of that [word indistinct]. [end recording]

Guevara Arce noted that the Bolivian future can be easily predicted: [Begin recording] Elections should be held in May or June 1980 although so far it is not known if they will be only presidential elections, elections for deputies and senators or if they will be general elections. In any case, if elections are held it is possible to foresee another military coup between now and May or June. Consequently, the immediate future is more or less uncertain. Anyway, to me there is something basic in Bolivian politics and life: the need to return to the democratic process. [end recording]

He maintained that he is determined to participate in that process not as candidate, but as a collaborator in an efficient manner: [Begin recording] I will serve my country in any way so it will return to the democratic process which was destroyed on 1 November. [end recording]

Newsman Ernesto Vega asked him a very important question: [begin recording] Will you run for president again? [Guevara Arce] I believe that to speak of presidential candidacies now would be premature for everyone, not only for me but for anybody who would want to run. I believe none of that can be determined until late January or something like that. Consequently, a statement in this regard would not correspond to reality; it would be premature. Not until late January or February will candidacies be announced and most importantly, if there will be elections. [end recording]

Regarding the new Bolivian Government headed by a woman, Guevara Arce has mixed feelings [Begin recording] Well, it is not a fact that something is missing; it is basically a civilian government and that is what is good about it. We have a civilian government instead of a military dictatorship, and this has reopened a democratic possibility. She is doing what she can under very difficult circumstances. The country has an economic problem which became much worse as a result of the coup. I mean there are several problems she is facing courageously. I would say that under the present circumstances it is a government we should all support. [end recording]

Guevara Arce is to meet with President Herrera Campins today or tomorrow to present his greetings.

BRIEFS

$850-Million Loan--Caracas--The Venezuelan Government signed an agreement with several international banks for an $850-million loan to finance several development projects, according to an announcement released by the Finance Ministry. [Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 1530 GMT 21 Dec 79 PA]

YUGOSLAVIA TO BE SOLD 3,000 BARRELS OF OIL DAILY

PA202117 Paris AFP in Spanish 0421 GMT 20 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 19 Dec (AFP)--An agreement by which Mexico will sell Yugoslavia 3,000 barrels of petroleum a day was signed today by representatives of the Yugoslav Petroleum Enterprise and the Mexican State Petroleum Enterprise (PEMEX), which exploits and distributes fuel in Mexico.

It was reported that Mexico will sell the petroleum to Yugoslavia at the present market price.

Delivery of Mexican petroleum to Yugoslavia will (?begin) in the second (?half of the year) and will be subject to revision every quarter, PEMEX reported.

The sales contract was signed here today by Juan Aizpuro, manager of the PEMEX Foreign Trade Office, and by Andrija Kisic, general manager of ENERGOINVEST ENERGOPETROL of Yugoslavia.

COMMUNIQUE ON PCM's VERDUGO MARTINEZ' TALKS WITH SPANISH CP

LD211033 Madrid MUNDO OBRERO in Spanish 12 Dec 79 p 8 LD

[Unattributed report: "Agreement on Quest for Workers' Political Influence"]

[Text] Following Santiago Carrillo's visit to Mexico and his meetings with the PCM leaders, both secretary generals released a communique on the content of the conversations, stressing the exisiting solidarity between the parties, which have a long tradition of friendship, and the similarity of opinions on a large number of topics. The text of the document is as follows:

PCE Secretary General Santiago Carrillo had talks with APCM delegation led by PCM Secretary General Arnoldo Martinez Verdugo in Mexicc City early in December 1979.

The exchange of information and opinions between the leaders of the two parties, which have a long tradition of friendship and mutual support for each other's struggles, will help to raise still further the level of solidarity between the organizations.

The PCM delegation expressed its recognition of the Spanish communists' contributions to the cause of strengthening and developing democracy in Spain. The PCM greeted as an important advance the Catalonia and Basque country autonomy laws and the solutions opening up for the other peoples of Spain.

The PCM expressed to Comrade Santiago Carrillo good wishes for success in the PCE's struggle to create agreement among broad political and social forces in Spain, to deal with the effects of the crisis and to provide a progressive solution to it which will take into account the defense of national interests and the interests of workers in both the countryside and the cities.

The PCM delegation showed great interest in the Spanish comrades' experience in work to strengthen the PCE's organization, especially on the basis of its rules--an activity which the Spanish communists are now stepping up and which will certainly yield excellent results benefiting the common cause of the Mexican and Spanish working classes and peoples.

The PCE secretary general pointed out that the successes achieved recently by the PCM indicate the correctness of its policy directed toward a democratic solution to the crisis in the socioeconomic structure and the democratic regeneration of Mexican society. The Spanish communist leader reasserted the congratulations on the PCM's 60th anniversary and praised the great enthusiasm and militancy shown by the Mexican communists in performing their tasks.

Santiago Carrillo expressed a very positive assessment of the PCM's efforts to achieve its aim of winning over fundamental sectors of the Mexican working class and people's masses. Both parties' experience shows the great importance of the degree of party organization, this being a fundamental factor for progress in the struggle for socialism.

The conversations permitted agreement to be reached on the special importance which the PCE and PCM attach to developing internal party democracy, which they regard as an essential condition for members to develop their initiative and revolutionary capacities.

The PCM explained to the PCE representative the nature of its struggle to encourage new measures to democratize political relations in Mexican society. The PCE secretary general expressed good wishes for success in the pursuit of this aim.

Another topic discussed on which agreement between the PCE and PCM was noted was the present forms in which each party, under its own conditions, defends the workers' interests: Struggle against unemployment and industrial stoppages and against the fall in the masses' living standards by means of an economic policy which will prevent the crisis from continuing to wreak havoc among the masses, and struggle to insure the workers' participation and influence in the reorientation of economic policy in a democratic and popular direction.

They also agreed on the need to continue developing the creative spirit and a continuous quest to exert a real influence on our societies and to tackle undogmatically the new problems posed by our era.

Both parties positively assessed the holding in Mexico of the second international conference of solidarity with Puerto Rican independence, stressing at the same time their solidarity with all Latin American democratic and progressive forces conducting broad and diverse struggles for freedom and democracy.

Both parties confirmed their support for and solidarity with the just cause of the Saharan people and their vanguard, the POLISARIO Front, for the right to build their own independent and sovereign state.

Both parties expressed their condemnation of the U.S. Government's plan to install hundreds of launch pads for medium-range nuclear missiles in European NATO member countries: The realization of these plans will increase international tension and the arms race. They confirmed their determintion to combat such plans and stressed the desirability of negotiations between NATO and the Warsaw Pact to reduce and slow down the arms race. They said that next year's CSCE conference in Madrid will be a suitable forum for taking the necessary initiatives with respect to the serious danger which these plans pose for European security and world peace.

The exchanges of information and opinions demonstrated that there is a broad range of shared viewpoints on many issues between the PCE and PCM. It was also decided that it will be very useful to continue developing various forms of cooperation and solidarity in the future.

REPORTAGE ON REACTION TO SHAH'S ASYLUM

Deportation Ruled Out

PA241606 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1515 GMT 24 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpt] Panama City, 24 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Authorized Panamanian sources reiterated today that former Iranian emperor Mohammed Reza Pahlavi will not be deported.

In view of the official announcement in Tehran that Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh had formally asked the Panamanian Government to extradite the deposed monarch "in the name of the revolutionary council," the sources recalled that President Aristides Royo has insisted that the former shah will find secure refuge here. The Foreign Ministry has also repeated that Pahlavi will not be deported from Panama.

Simultaneously, the editorial in today's issue of LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA, whose deputy director Carlos Ozores is also minister of foreign relations, explains in detail why the extradition request of the Iranian Government will not be heeded, though it did not mention the former shah's name. The writer of the editorial maintains that all extradition requests must be filed through regular channels, present proof of the person's guilt--including records of properly conducted court proceedings--and that even then, the country granting asylum can refuse the request.

LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA recalled that international treaties list the following cases in which extradition requests can be denied: "When the request is based on political reasons or on politically based motives, when the crime or crimes attributed to the accused person were committed before laws were passed prohibiting them, when the person accused of a crime could be sentenced to death and when the accused person will not be tried impartially by ordinary courts of his country but by exceptional or ad hoc courts."

Iran Will Sell Oil

PA222123 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 22 Dec 79 p 1 PA

[Text] Iranian oil minister 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar has told the local Tehran service [Servicio local de Teheran] that Iran is willing to export oil to Panama under contract.

The Iranian minister stressed that Panama and the Islamic Republic of Iran are waging a war against imperialism and must share common goals in this area. Iran will try as much as possible to satisfy the oil needs of Panama, whose supply has been rationed because of its struggle against U.S. imperialism. This nation is preparing to take the necessary steps and sign contracts for the sale of oil to Panama. "Panama's oil needs have been met with rationing as a result of its struggle against U.S. imperialism, but we are ready to sign contracts to export oil to that country," the Iranian oil minister indicated.

'Tense Calm' Prevails

PA211547 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 21 Dec 79 PA

[Text] New incidents occurred near the university early tonight where firemen put out the fire in a vehicle burned by students. The traffic was blocked again and the National Guard had to return to the scene of the incidents in order to restore order.

After this incident things started to calm down but a tense calm remained in the city while the National Guard watched over things. At the bus stops, employees of the public and private sector expressed their displeasure with the students' actions, which disrupted bus services and delayed their return home. We were also told that no one has been arrested for disturbing public order.

Student, Union Groups Communiques

PA211910 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpt] In Panama, various union and student organizations have come out against the shah's presence in our country. In a communique released today, the University Reform Front [FRU] calls for the former Iranian monarch's departure. It says the international prestige of Panama and its people cannot and should not be marred for the sake of false humanitarianism. FRU says the only people who can hail such a blunder are those whose goal in life is to make a fortune out of the misery and sweat of workers while not caring about poverty and the needs of the poor.

The National Central of Panamanian Workers also released a communique questioning the shah's presence in our country. It (?says) the working class does not understand how a nonalined government that always sided with the nations struggling for their liberation can protect someone who was responsible for the deaths of thousands of his fellow citizens.

Students' Parents Issue Resolution

PA211845 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0315 GMT 21 Dec 79 PA

[Text] The association of parents of National Institute students issued a harsh resolution tonight protesting the incidents which occurred yesterday between the students of the school and National Guardsmen. The document makes the executive branch responsible for the incidents and demands that it define its stand on the problem. The document, however, does not mention, or even deplore, the fact that newswoman Luz Maria Noli of this station was burned with acid thrown by a student from a window on the second floor of the National Institute.

National Guard Blocks Students

PA212108 Paris AFP in Spanish 2026 GMT 21 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Panama City, 21 Dec (AFP)--At least three university students were hurt here today in clashes with National Guardsmen as they tried to stage another demonstration against the ex-shah's presence in Panama, according to reports unconfirmed by the authorities.

After a calm morning and the National Guard's lifting of its surveillance of access routes to the university, about 200 students began a demonstration, but military patrols showed up to stop them and the confrontation ensued. According to eyewitness accounts, the National Guard used tear gas and the students responded by throwing stones. It was also reported that gunfire, possibly from shotguns, was heard and at least three students were wounded. The National Guard is again watching streets leading to the university, in the northern part of the city, while the demonstrators are practically besieged inside.

Shah Worried About Family

PA201709 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 20 Dec 79 p 24 PA

[Text] Life is no longer important for the former shah of Iran. What really worries him now is the safety of his family, CRITICA learned yesterday from a source very close to the former shah. Although he does not show his concern, the former shah of Iran has voiced a certain unrest over the safety of his relatives.

Another source said that on Tuesday a very important person who was neither General Torrijos nor President Royo arrived on Contadora Island where the former shah is staying. It must have been another relative of the former shah because strict security measures were taken throughout the island to the point the island looked deserted, the source added. Armed men were seen everywhere, he added.

It is also public knowledge that the Contadora Hotel has increased its rates by 100 percent since the former shah arrived in Contadora. Persons working in the hotel and in the casino must show their identification cards if they wish to move freely around the island.

Meanwhile, it was confirmed that the former shah is studying the possibility of moving to another location in Panama, probably Coibita Island.

Editorial Explains Asylum, Extradition

PA241640 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 24 Dec 79 p a-4 PA

[Editorial: "The Right to Asylum and the Extradition"]

[Text] One of the most noteworthy and valuable contributions of Latin American international law is that it has devoted various bilateral as well as multilateral conventions and treaties to several specific juridical norms which govern the so-called right to asylum and extradition.

Diplomatic asylum is freely granted or denied by the head of the mission accredited in a country. If asylum is granted, the authorities of the territorial state must grant the corresponding safe-conduct so that the refugee may leave the country under secure conditions. The main principle of the right to diplomatic asylum is that the power to grant it or deny it rests exclusively upon the chief of a mission and it is not legal for him to discuss his decision. However, if he has erroneously granted asylum and the exile leaves the country, the possibility is open to request his extradition from the country that receives him.

The cases in which a state asks another state to extradite a person accused of a specific crime so that he may be tried and eventually sentenced by the legal authorities of the first state are common. The extradition request in question must be duly formalized by submitting evidence aimed at proving the guilt of the wanted person. This evidence includes a soundly based indictment issued by the legally constituted official. However, in any case, it is up to the state to grant or deny the extradition of the person in question. However, to define positions, international treaties and agreements mentioned here usually clearly specify in which cases extradition is not workable and is therefore denied. Among these cases are: When the extradition request is based on political motives; when the crime or crimes attributed to the person were committed before the law which punishes them was issued (based on the universal principle that there is no crime or punishment without a previous law on them); when the wanted person may be sentenced to death because of the crime attributed to him and when the wanted person will not be tried with impartiality at the regular courts of his country but by special or "ad hoc" courts.

If international relations are to be based on what has been called "the right of the people" since Grocio [former Netherlands international lawyer] and are to be in line with the legal norms that the nations have established to insure their liberty, security and independence, banning all use of force, it must be admitted that these norms should be complied with because that is why they were issued.

Columnist Urges Calm

PA202357 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 20 Dec 79 p 6 PA

["Ajedrez Politico" column by Bolivar Rodriguez Puga: "The Apostles of Lies"]

[Excerpts] I do not know how other Panamanians think or feel, but I am deeply concerned about my country's fate. I would like a divine light to shine not only on those who are presently responsible for government, but on **all** those who have taken the path of opposition so they may visualize together what is happening now. It is not a question of gaining or losing political hegemony; it is not a question of retaining or losing positions of leadership or of maintaining personalistic postures which detract from or enhance individual concerns. It is a question of deeper significance, in which national security is at stake.

The country has been stung by that poisonous international insect which has caused bloody disturbances among many of the world's peoples. And such is the venom it injects that it has penetrated the minds of many Panamanians who daily call desperately for a bloodbath, spurred on by the fever that occurs in all mortal illness. This deadly insect carries an insistent message of hatred. We see it ride on radio waves and inject venom into the ink of the press, because it realizes that its venom is most effective when spread by the written and spoken media. And a cry of hatred, of desperation bursts from the throat of every Panamanian who has any problem of any kind. When this happens the fate of the country is in peril. What is occurring in Panama is not simply a struggle for a change in the men who hold positions of command. Too much hatred has been injected, too many truths have been distorted, too many lies have become truth so that the people are at the brink of an abyss, the verge of confrontation, of civil war. And those who daily incite these passions in the belief that this will allow them to achieve their excessive ambitions do not realize that when a people take to the streets to fight, whether from hatred, hunger or ideology, they do not forgive the apostles of lies.

In all sectors of the nation we encounter those apostles who little by little lead the people astray. They exist among the workers who have lost their feeling of brotherhood; among the intellectuals who at certain times lose the sense of their own mission and responsibility and take the path of passion; among politicians or political analysts, who are making politics an instrument for mercenary action against peace and constructive ideas; among industrialists and businessmen who measure democracy and justice from the depths of their pockets. It is difficult to govern a country and make it progress when it is in such straits.

The people are capable of solving the problem if they learn to say no to lies, to deceit, to the false apostles, to those who daily are seeking power or maintaining themselves in power at the cost of popular sacrifices.

It is advisable for the people to maintain the highest degree of serenity and view analytically the course of daily events. They should learn to recognize a lie before they are fooled, to use their strength without being guided by passions and above all to be indifferent toward those whose hatred toward everything around them has made them pathological cases.

'Dangerous Precedent' Set

PA222018 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 20 Dec 79 P 4A PA

[By Luis Restrepo, "Mr Pahlavi"]

[Text] Mr Reza Pahlavi has been granted asylum in our country. It has not been declared officially that it really is political asylum, temporary residence, or an in-transit stop-over. The rulers of our country are not following--unlike many other cases--a clear and truthful policy regarding the issue. Some people interpret things in a certain way while others say something completely different. However, that is the way this country is being run and that is why the obvious sometimes becomes unexpected.

Mr Pahlavi is a controversial figure. He always was. He came to power as a pawn of the great powers interested in maintaining control of the Persian Gulf, the Red Sea and oil production at low prices. He called himself king of kings. He tried to imitate Cyrus and he occupied the Persian throne badly, playing the role of the famous king of Persia.

He was led to believe that he was the barrier to Soviet expansionism and he was given all kinds of weapons. There was another objective in this delivery of weapons: to maintain a colonized military enclave. Since Mr Pahlavi as shah of Iran had absolute power, he ordered the payment of billions of dollars yearly for the weapons that all nations, including those from the socialist bloc, supplied him.

Recently, I read an interesting analysis of the situation in Iran. The analyst claimed that "there was no challenge that the shah could not cope with. He could count on all kinds of repressive forces and the disciplined loyalty of SAVAK, the brutal organization which every day invented new means of torture." The shah was power, the rest were the mob.

Country of Asylum

Many reasonable arguments have been given to justify the asylum granted to Mr Pahlavi. One of these arguments is that "Panama is a humanitarian country where the right to political asylum is respected." This is true. Ever since colonial times people have come to Panama because they knew that they and their property would be safe. The violent period after independence from Spain unleashed a wave of political persecution in America. Many men who opposed the governments emerging in Latin America were forced to flee and in Panama they found security and respect for their human rights. The list of Latin Americans who found refuge in Panama is long. Juan Montalvo, hounded last century by that Andean beast called Garcia Moreno; Leon Felipe, driven to exile by Francisco Franco's Falange during the early 1940's; Romulo Betancourt, Carlos Andres Perez, and Jose [as published] D. Peron. They were fleeing from the dictatorships of the Southern Cone, in Venezuela, and in the Caribbean. In Panama, they all found not only asylum, but good will, admiration and friendship.

These were all, however, the persecuted, not the persecutors; prisoners, and not jailers; victims and not oppressors. I believe that in Mr Pahlavi's case we have established a dangerous precedent because, following this same thesis, tomorrow we could offer asylum to General Somoza, now in Paraguay.

Tarnished Image

Mr Pahlavi's case leads us to other commentaries. I have carefully read the reports and comments by foreign correspondents, especially from the United States. Reports on the so-called "Jordan Mission," for example, place the president of the republic in a very delicate position because these reports insist on stressing a definite and concrete fact.

Hamilton Jordan, President Carter's special adviser was ordered to fly between Panama and Texas. In Panama he was to deal exclusively with General Torrijos who was to decide whether Mr Pahlavi could reside in Panama. Mr Jordan came to Panama twice before getting General Torrijos' authorization.

According to the official analysis, the White House official did not meet with President Royo and had nothing to do with him. Besides, the reports I am discussing stress the point, "the strong man," while President Royo's image is projected internationally at a minimum. In my opinion, this is another negative factor resulting from Mr Pahlavi's presence in Panama.

Opposition's Attacks Mocked

PA222315 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 21 Dec 79 p 4 PA

[Editorial: "'The Shah,' 'Che' and the 'Churuco'"]

[Text] The opposition is definitely in a "churuco" [peasant's bag] of confusion and weakness. It cannot avoid the proud blows dealt it by the leaders of our revolutionary process. They unexpectedly accuse the government of being either communist, fascist, reactionary or a rightwing dictatorship. In the days of the Sandinist guerrillas it was ultraleftist, or Tupamaro, or pro-MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] or in favor of Colombia's M-19 movement. When General Torrijos and President Royo visited Cuba, the government was pro-Soviet, and pro-Tito. During the visit to Sri Lanka it was pro-Third World with Maoist and even Trotskiyite leanings. Now, with the shah's arrival, it is reactionary and pro-Hitler. In short, on the one hand it is attacked for following the doctrines of the Argentine hero assassinated in Bolivia and leader of the Cuban Revolution and on the other it is charged with following Pentagon guidelines which have led to the granting of asylum to the former Persian leader.

The opposition grieves over the fate of our ambassadors and our students who might be kidnaped and executed by the Iranians. They are dying of fear that someone might interfere with Copa or Air Panama. But while they shout insults against the government in the communications media, under the table the big opposition lawyers, the true owners of those communications media, are very subtly trying to contact the shah's representatives in search of some commercial benefit. The people hear them shouting, but in the end they forget them. After all, the people do not travel by plane and even though our diplomats must be protected we do not have to hasten events that may be far from happening. The truth is that, as is traditional, anything the government does is bad for the opposition. Evidence of this, and a laughable development as well, is the Panamanian opposition millionaires' attack on the asylum granted the shah.

Only one truth stands out here: As was pointed out above, the government is keeping the opposition in a "churuco" of confusion. A "churuco" is a peasant's bag where everything fits and is kept in disarray. This is how we see the national opposition front politicians.

Their groundless, confused and aimless diatribes do the government a lot of good. While they fall into the wantonness of prostration and unheard-of madness within the framework of incredible political oscillation, the government recharges its batteries by constructing hydroelectric plants and new roads and by implementing its important plans. But since we live in a true democracy, there is a reason for all these developments. Strange as it may seem, this situation is positive because it sets the tone of freedom essential to our country today.

PROMPT U.S. APPOINTMENT OF CANAL DIRECTORS URGED

PA191955 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 19 Dec 79 p 6A PA

[Article entitled "The Shah and the Canal Board of Directors" by Ricardo Lince]

[Text] A week ago, when asylum for the shah of Iran had not even been considered by the government, the president of the republic said he was only waiting for the cooling of the conflict between Iran and the United States over the capture of 50 hostages at the embassy in Tehran to voice Panama's protest against U.S. lack of compliance with the Torrijos-Carter treaty. The protest is against the evident reluctance to appoint the Panama Canal directors.

Events, however, took a surprisingly new turn. President Royo, making use of his peculiar tactic of turning problems upside down to find the easiest solution, killed several birds with one stone. He offered asylum to the shah of Iran. Thus, he left no doubt as to Panama's foreign policy, and he reaffirmed the alliance with the United States to defend the canal.

There is no longer any doubt that even the most stubborn sectors of the United States, who have delayed the appointment of the canal directors through congressional pressure, will have to accept the facts and allow Carter to fill those positions with progressive and fairminded people. These people should be capable of fully understanding the alternatives required for the future efficient operation of the Panama Canal.

In this delicate transitional phase, the United States must give evidence of its spirit of cooperation and active participation in maintaining the efficient operation of the waterway. A recent study of Panama's maritime, ports and fishing policies, conducted by Rolando Anguizola, points out that the infrastructure turned over to Panama by virtue of the Torrijos-Carter treaty (particularly the ports) was received in poor operational condition due to negligence. Anguizola notes that the poor maintenance during the past few years under U.S. management could be because the United States expected future Panamanian competition with the U.S. terminal loading system.

The Panamanian people, who know the meaning of the spirit of cooperation, expect the prompt appointment of this canal board of directors. The board must begin fixing the new canal policies and adopting the necessary measures to insure compliance with all provisions of the treaty. The permanent presence of the shah in Panama is a challenge we must face as an adult nation. This is a challenge involving more than the security of the shah. It involves the government itself and even the canal. The Arabs already have experience on how to put a canal out of commission, as in the case of the Suez Canal. Even the statue of Ferdinand de Lesseps was submerged.

Therefore, united by a common defense denominator, Panama and the United States must make use of every mechanism to safeguard the republic and the operation of the canal. Then our solidarity may rest on a firm foundation and enjoy national support without bickering or stinginess.

COSTA RICA

GOVERNMENT UNIONS CALL FOR NATIONAL STRIKE IN JANUARY

PA211437 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Dec 79 PA

[Text] The National Federation of Government Employees (FENATRAP) is asking its 17 public sector unions to call a national strike in mid-January, FENATRAP Secretary General Cristian Sobrado has announced. He said this is being done to protest President Carazo's speech last night announcing new taxes that will affect Costa Rican workers. The private sector's unions will be asked to invite their members to join this national strike, Sobrado added.

According to him, when the new taxes were announced, the unions were preparing to wage a hard struggle against the high cost of living, which is why President Carazo's speech surprised them and filled them with indignation. With the new taxes announced the government is showing disrespect for the Legislative Assembly, the Costa Rican people and the union movement, the FENATRAP secretary general indicated. According to him, the executive branch has taken advantage of the fact that the legislature is currently not in session and that the people are in a festive mood to approve new taxes.

Sobrado concluded by saying the unions will also be invited to participate in a big demonstration in mid-January.

BANANA WORKERS BEGIN STRIKE IN LIMON

PA211502 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpt] At 0500 this morning, over 4,000 banana workers began a strike at the Standard Fruit Company in La Estrella Valley and Riofrio, Limon Province. Our special correspondent Fernando Escobar told us that all activities are at a standstill and no violence has been reported.

[Begin Escobar recording] As of 0500 today, the banana workers began a strike in La Estrella Valley and Riofrio. The workers are striking because the company is not abiding by the most recent collective bargaining contract. We have toured the area and noticed that the strike has in fact begun and that everything is calm. No incidents have been reported. A few Costa Rican flags have been placed in some places. Groups of workers are picketing to make sure nobody interferes with their strike. We also interviewed two labor leaders: Luis Carlos Montero, secretary general of the General Workers Confederation; and the secretary general of the Union of Limon Workers. They told us they both support the strike of the banana workers. [end recording]

ECONOMY MINISTER REPORTS ON OIL TALKS IN VENEZUELA

PA220239 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0010 GMT 22 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpts] San Jose, 21 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rican Economy Minister Fernando Altmann Ortiz announced today that Venezuela will sell 4.4 million barrels of oil and other refined products to Costa Rica in 1980. Altmann called a news conference to report on his brief visit yesterday to Caracas. Costa Rica and Venezuela signed a 5-year oil agreement. Venezuela will sell Costa Rica enough oil to meet two-thirds of its requirements. The remainder, 2.5 million barrels a year, is supplied by Mexico.

The Costa Rican minister said Alirio Parra and Mario Rodriguez, officials of the Venezuelan Petroleum Company, had informed him that Venezuela will sell its crude at no less than $24 a barrel in 1980. He added that President Luis Herrera Campins had made "encouraging" statements regarding Venezuela's handling of oil sales to Central American and Caribbean countries. The minister added that Venezuela would possibly refine the 6,000 barrels a day Costa Rica needs and which its oil enterprise does not have the capability to process. Lastly, the minister indicated that he had noted "great receptiveness" during his brief stay in Venezuela.

EL SALVADOR

PEACE CORPS MEMBER, 11 OTHERS RELEASED BY LP-28

PA220107 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0043 GMT 22 Dec 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The leftist 28 February Peoples Leagues (LP-28) this afternoon released 12 hostages, including U.S. citizen Deborah Lofts, a Peace Corps member.

The organization held these people hostage for 7 days in the Central, San Jacinto and Modelo markets, which LP-28 members had occupied to demand municipal tax reductions and other social benefits.

Miss Lofts had been held hostage along with five Salvadorans in the Central Market. San Salvador Mayor Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes successfully conducted the negotiations for their release. According to Lofts, she will return to the United States for a vacation and then come back to continue participating in activities designed to help the community.

GUERRILLAS TO KILL ENVOY IF DEMANDS NOT MET BY 15 JAN

PA231430 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1330 GMT 23 Dec 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador--The leftist guerrillas who have been holding South African Ambassador Archibald Dunn for more than 3 weeks, said today that they will execute the diplomat if their demands are not met by 15 January. The Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces which kidnaped Dunn in front of the South African Embassy on 28 November have demanded the publication of a manifesto in 102 countries in exchange for his release.

GUERRILLAS INCREASE CALLS FOR INSURRECTION

PA211732 Paris AFP in Spanish 1647 GMT 21 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 21 Dec (AFP)--It was learned here today that the Salvadoran Marxist guerrillas groups today increased their calls for a general insurrection during the Christmas holidays at a time when the political violence has already caused the death of more than 50 persons over the past 4 days.

The Mejicano and Cuscatancingo municipalities, in the northern outskirts of San Salvador, were completely occupied by guerrillas of the Popular Liberation Forces (FPL) this morning who, armed with submachineguns, blocked all entries. The FPL members fled after using loudspeakers to urge people to rebel.

Early today, the Marxist Peoples Revolutionary Bloc (BPR) occupied the San Salvador Cathedral again. The BPR members displayed large signs uring all to join in a general insurrection and demanding the release of political prisoners.

STUDENTS OCCUPY UNIVERSITY OFFICE, HOLD HOSTAGES

PA212237 Paris AFP in Spanish 2157 GMT 21 Dec 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Dec (AFP)--Approximately 300 students occupied the office of the rector of the Central American University (UCA) today and took 25 hostages to demand that university authorities express opposition to the incumbent government junta. Meanwhile the junta issued a decree regulating the publication of political statements as paid ads in newspapers.

The UCA is regarded here as being closely linked to the new government. Roman Mayorga, member of the junta, was rector until October, when he assumed his new position. Another junta member, Guillermo Ungo, was a professor at the university. In addition, at least 11 ministers of the present 25-member cabinet are UCA professors. According to some political sectors, the ties between the government and the UCA are so close that the government's platform was drafted there.

The university authorities have scheduled a meeting for this afternoon to review the situation. Most of the students occupying the rector's office belong to leftist groups. In addition, the People's Revolutionary Bloc is occupying the cathedral of San Salvador, and the archbishopric is occupied by the militants of the 28 February Peoples Leagues. Both groups are demanding the intervention of the archbishop, Monsignor Oscar Arnulfo Romero, to obtain the release of imprisoned militants. Monsignor Romero was outstanding in denouncing the arbitrary actions of the previous Salvadoran regime, with which the church, under his guidance, had broken relations.

Meanwhile the junta today issued a decree regulating the publication of political statements in newspapers. According to a government spokesman, the idea is to keep unidentified individuals from making up names for nonexistent groups in order to attack the government. This measure, it is said, will not affect press freedom because the newspapers' pages remain open to all well-known political sectors, including extreme left groups. But from now on it will be necessary for all documents published to bear a responsible signature. The measure was adopted because several unidentified and allegedly rightist groups and fronts have proliferated in recent days to attack the government for its policy toward the extreme left.

From another quarter, the morning newspaper DIARIO DE HOY, one of the country's most influential, today published a note saying a leftist group has repeatedly threatened to blow up its installations because its reports are biased. The paper has defended its position and has reiterated it will not change its line because of these threats. The paper indicated it will make the accusation public to show the irresponsibility of the accusers.

On another subject, the Foreign Ministry announced today that Jose Roberto Nolasco will replace Salvadoran ambassador to the United Nations Miguel Rafael Urquia in January.

Bishop Urges People To Arm

PA242200 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1956 GMT 24 Dec 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 24 Dec (LATIN)--A bishop today urged the Salvadoran people to arm in order to prevent churches from being occupied by extremists.

According to San Vicente Bishop Pedro Arnoldo Aparicio y Quintanilla, "one must defend oneself."

If one must kill to defend himself from the wicked communists, then it must be done because one is fighting for the fatherland." The bishop spoke today during a mass said in San Juan Nonualco, 45 km east of here.

Aparicio y Quintanilla also charged that a priest, whose name he did not disclose, is smuggling arms from Honduras.

The bishop recommended that people attending the mass organize into groups of five with a leader for each group to fight the terrorists who "create panic, hatred and uncertainty." "A few days ago, I organized a demonstration and we forced a number of Peoples Revolutionary Bloc members from the temple. They will not return to that church again and I do not want you ever to permit the occupation of San Juan Nonualco Church by those atheists...you must arm yourselves and evict them regardless of the cost," he added.

Extremists are currently occupying the metropolitan cathedral and El Calvario and San Jacinto churches.

BPR Vacates Church

PA232303 Paris AFP in Spanish 2143 GMT 23 Dec 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 23 Dec (AFP)--One person was wounded here today during a demonstration by approximately 5,000 persons organized by the Peoples Revolutionary Bloc [BPR] to protest the armed forces' use of force to evict peasants and workers from several farms and companies they had occupied. The person was hit during a brief burst of shooting provoked, according to the BPR, by individual infiltrated into the demonstration with the object of sabotaging it, but the demonstrators continued their march toward the center of the city.

Meanwhile, the BPR group which occupied the cathedral on Friday abandoned it today and Bishop Arnulfo Romero was able to hold mass. Romero appealed to the kidnapers of South African Ambassador Archibald Dunn (kidnaped on 28 November by the Popular Liberation Forces, which is demanding the publication of its proclamations in 102 newspapers around the world) to release him as a Christmas goodwill gesture. The kidnapers said yesterday they would execute Dunn unless their demands are met, but Romero said these demands are impossible to satisfy.

Elsewhere, the 28 February Peoples Leagues group which occupied the San Salvador Archbishopric last Tuesday and took 15 hostages today discreetly abandoned the area without their demands (the release of 20 prisoners) being met.

MILITARY REPORT ON CLASH WITH BPR GUERRILLAS

PA260258 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0217 GMT 26 Dec 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 25 Dec (LATIN)--According to a military spokesman, one person was killed and two were arrested as a result of a clash between the army and members of the leftist Peoples Revolutionary Bloc (BPR). The armed clash occurred at the Santa Isabel plantation in Santa Ana, 67 km from San Salvador, the spokesman added.

According to the report, the army arrived in Santa Isabel to evict the BPR militants occupying the plantation. The military spokesman said the BPR men set fire to the plantation's deposits as they were escaping. They had stolen documents and money.

GOVERNMENT DENIES REPRESSION, FOREIGN ADVISERS

PA222006 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1931 GMT 22 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 22 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The Salvadoran Government today denied that it is acting in a repressive way or that it has Chinese and Vietnamese advisers. It stated that "the imagination of the extreme leftwing is prolific" because that is what best suits its interests to destabilize the country and reach power through violence.

Government junta spokesmen told ACAN-EFE the armed forces are observing the law by keeping order in rural and urban areas where leftwing activitists have been occupying job sites in demand of pay raises and other social benefits. They added that extremist groups have been intensifying their activities to undermine peace and order. "In view of the reaction of honest citizens," action has been taken to insure calm. They added that the extreme leftwing calls the humane enforcement of the law "repression."

NICARAGUA

NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S. ON EXTRADITION OF SOMOZISTS TO BEGIN

PA211959 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 21 Dec 79 PA

[Excerpt] Attorney General Dr Ernesto Castillo Martinez has reported that the extradition request concerning the first group of 30 Somozists who fled to the United States in the wake of the Sandinist triumph is now ready. He added that during January , possibly toward the end, negotiations will begin with the United States for the extradition of Somozists. He said that all Somozists now abroad who committed crimes, assassinations and thefts will be brought before common courts to be tried and sentenced for the crimes they committed. No Somozist criminal will escape revolutionary justice for the many crimes and the genocide against the Nicaraguan people.

AMBASSADOR SOLIS NOTES IMPROVEMENT IN U.S. RELATIONS

PA231454 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 18 Dec 79 p 2 PA

[Text] Companero Rafael Solis, Nicaraguan ambassador to the United States, said today relations with the United States are good and getting better because Washington is better informed about the Nicaraguan process.

"We are receiving both private--church--and official U.S. aid and it must be noted that they are interested in pursuing their aid efforts," the ambassador reported.

Solis said the recent visit to New York by commanders of the revolution Victor Tirado and Jaime Wheelock was very positive because they discussed with U.S. business groups the basic guidelines of the policies being practiced in Nicaragua.

"Companero Wheelock's speech to the Council of the Americas received an ovation. Wheelock said Nicaragua wants to receive any sort of foreign aid and investment that would accelerate national reconstruction and support development efforts. This created a very good impression in the United States and it opened greater prospects for talks with private business groups interested in what is happening in Nicaragua."

"The congressmen's spirit is currently one of cooperation with our country," Solis said, noting that the "pro-Somoza lobby has disappeared and there are only a few legislators left who back Somoza. One of them is Murphy."

"For instance," Solis added, "Congressman Wilson who helped Somoza so much is now saying he would be willing to support free Nicaragua. We have talked with him a lot and, among other things, he told us he did not know everything there was to know about the dictatorship."

Our ambassador mentioned that the U.S. public is changing its opinion concerning Nicaragua. "There is only one problem," he said, "and that is the media. There are some newspapers that are objective and favor the development of the process while reactionary newspapers are constantly attacking us. There are even newspapers in which one editorial writer speaks well of Nicaragua while another one opposes it. There are also cases of artful attacks using all sorts of lies as was the case in a series of articles written by Leonard Grenwood in a Los Angeles paper. He said there are large-scale human rights violations in Nicaragua where thousands of people have been executed. Fortunately, congressmen are not impressed by this type of information but obviously doubt remains in the minds of some of the public. It must be remembered that the American people are indifferent to world affairs and are not well-informed."

We asked Solis what reasons the congressmen gave to amend and place conditions on the $75 million credit given to Nicaragua. He replied that "they suggested as many as 14 amendments, some relating to freedom of religion, freedom of the press, union rights and so on. Fortunately, better informed Americans who are willing to help us dismiss these charges say that freedom of the press, of religion and union rights exist in Nicaragua."

Ambassador Solis recalled that the credit still has to be approved by the Senate. "I am certain it will be approved because the Senate is very well disposed toward us but it will not act until January."

Finally, he said several U.S. officials have been invited to Nicaragua to witness the court proceedings against the Somozists and to find out how human rights are upheld here. He also mentioned that the Nicaraguan Embassy in Washington, a building estimated to be worth $1.8 million, is for sale because it is too big and the expense of keeping it up cannot be justified while the Nicaraguan people are trying to practice austerity.

STRATEGY FOR RECOVERING OFFSHORE ISLANDS CONSIDERED

PA242041 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1847 GMT 24 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 24 DEC (ACAN-EFE)--Nicaragua's revolutionary government is carefully considering the strategy it will use in its announced diplomatic and legal offensive to recover its geographic and economic rights in the waters of the Pacific and Atlantic in applying its 200-mile territorial claims. This was revealed here today by Deputy Foreign Minister Alvaro Ramirez Gonzalez when asked by newsmen about the verbal violence of Colombian government officials and dailies in reacting to the government junta's decision on this matter.

Nicaragua's adherence to the international 200-mile limit, already adopted by many coastal countries, will have the total support of the Nicaraguan people and the sympathy and support of many friendly countries, said Daniel Ortega, member of the junta and Sandinist commander, when he officially revealed the intention last week.

Ramirez Gonzalez said that Nicaragua's action is not only intended to protect its economic rights in its territorial waters in both seas, "but it is also a duty that calls for the dignity and patriotism of all Nicaraguans." In the Caribbean Sea, the Roncador, Quitasueno and Serrana keys--part of the continental shelf--are being controlled by the Colombian Government as a result of a treaty with the United States which ceded them without consulting Nicaragua. The deputy foreign ministry believes Colombia's attitude in refusing to let Nicaragua exercise an international right, which Colombia itself is asserting in its seabed dispute with Venezuela, is legally incongruous. The Nicaraguan official, commenting on Colombia's position, added that he does not believe the U.S. Congress will ratify this 1972 U.S.-Colombian treaty. "Nicaragua," he stressed, "was not present during the negotiations and when the agreement was reached, Nicaragua was not consulted. Therefore, we reject them and oppose them." Ramirez Gonzalez added that the treaty, according to which Nicaragua ceded San Andres and Providencia islands to Colombia, is also null because the constitution that was in effect in that country in 1928 forbade handing any national territory over to foreign countries.

The Foreign Ministry's legal department and the Nicaraguan government junta are considering, for the time being, the steps that will be taken to recover national sovereignty over these keys and islands and the effect of all this on any fishing treaties in the Pacific that have been signed.

GOVERNMENT JUNTA PREPARES CABINET REORGANIZATION

PA242341 Paris AFP in Spanish 2236 GMT 24 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 24 Dec (AFP)--The Nicaraguan cabinet will be expanded and reorganized to fulfill next year's national economic reconstruction tasks, government sources confirmed here today. The government junta is currently meeting to discuss new appointments. The number of ministries, currently 14, will presumably be increased to at least 20.

Although this has not been confirmed, according to government sources, the most important appointment would be that of Cmdr Henry Ruiz to the Planning Ministry where he would replace Roberto Mayorga. Ruiz currently holds a post in the Sandinist Front's National Directorate. In the Planning Ministry, he and Reconstruction Minister Alfredo Cesar would be in charge of determining the tasks to be undertaken in 1980.

It is also assumed that Commander Cero, Eden Pastora, who currently holds the post of deputy interior minister, will be appointed to the Armed Forces Ministry. He will also be entrusted with the task of directing the training of the Sandinist Army's reserve units. Changes are also predicted in the health, industry, education and defense ministries. The latter would be headed by Humberto Ortega, currently the army's commander in chief.

Several deputy ministries will also be created. Three of these would be in the Interior Ministry to help Minister Tomas Borge with the large amount of work.

These changes will be officially announced on 27 December during an event organized to commemorate the fifth anniversary of an operation in which the Sandinist Front held several hostages inside the house of a former ranking government official. Next year's economic reactivation plan will be explained and discussed at this event. The plan centers on three main points: the renegotiation of the $1.6 billion foreign debt (?and) the obtainment of new international credits; the search for a solution to the unemployment problem which in early 1980 might reach 45 percent; and the establishment of policies that guarantee the supply of staples.

AFP NOTES POSSIBILITY OF SABOTAGE IN BURNING OF HAVANA STORE

PA231336 Paris AFP in Spanish 0431 GMT 23 Dec 79 PA

[Text] Havana, 22 Dec (AFP)--The AFP correspondent here has reported that the only store selling clothing to diplomats and foreigners in Havana was partially burned last night at 2100 (0200 GMT).

Several eyewitnesses at Fifth Avenue, in front of the store said that it was a criminal act committed by counterrevolutionaries who used gasoline to burn the store after attacking the watchman. Policemen on duty near the store, however, told AFP that the fire had been caused by a short circuit.

The fire occurred barely 10 days after calls by the antigovernment clandestine Radio Libertad Cubana inciting people to burn stores selling foodstuffs and clothing to foreigners and to continue acts of sabotage. According to radio experts this station is broadcasting outside of Cuban territory.

REPORTAGE ON CONCLUDING STAGES OF GROUP OF 77 MEETING

UNESCO Head Addresses Group

FL212206 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2135 GMT 21 Dec 79 FL

[Text] Today Amadou Mahtar M'bow, director general of the UNESCO, spoke at the plenum of the Group of 77 ministerial meeting which is meeting in Havana. Mahtar M'bow said that only an equitable division of the economic and scientific potential of the world will allow the industrialization of the underdeveloped countries. He said that UNESCO is concerned with developing its plans at all levels of education as a contribution to this endeavor which is so important for all of mankind. He added that he has great hopes for the agreements reached among the Group of 77.

Cuban Minister Hector Rodriguez Llompart, who presides at the Group of 77 meeting, expressed his thanks for the greetings message from Mahtar M'bow and asked the working group to break up into smaller groups to conclude their work.

Closed by Rodriguez Llompart

FL221421 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Dec 79 FL

[Excerpt] At 0430 hours (0930 GMT) today the Group of 77 ministerial meeting ended. It had been meeting for 5 days at the Palace of Conventions in Havana. The closing remarks were made by Cuban Minister Hector Rodriguez Llompart who stated that with the happy conclusion of this conference the group of countries participating have seen their unity strengthened, and that the intense efforts over these past few days have been fruitful.

He pointed out that the critical world economic situation and the unjust economic system imposed by the developed countries which obstinately want to maintain their privileges at the expense of plundering our wealth were exhaustively studied. He added that the meeting also studied and reached decisions on the fundamental aspects of dealing with the industrialization of underdeveloped countries, with the heart of the problem being the question of financing.

Rodriguez Llompart said that we are pleased precisely because over these days of this meeting there has been extensive support for the proposal made by our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro at the United Nations in his position as president of the nonalined countries movement. In closing the Group of 77 ministerial meeting the Cuban minister referred to the statement by our highest leader on the additional contribution of no less than 300 billion for the development of the underdeveloped countries.

In another part of his remarks Rodriguez Llompart touched on some of the points dealt with at the meeting, such as facilities for transferring technology under adequate conditions to the underdeveloped countries, and the harmful role of the transnationals. Another point he cited was the prejudicial policy of growing protectionism imposed by some developed capitalist countries.

Final Declaration

FL221928 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Dec 79 FL

[Excerpt] Ernesto Madero, Mexican ambassador to Cuba, spoke on behalf of the participating delegations and praised the efforts made by the Cuban Government in holding the meeting, and proposed a vote of appreciation for Commander in Chief Fidel Castro for his stimulating inaugural speech. This was approved by acclamation.

The final declaration adopted by this group, which now includes 119 countries, reiterates their support for the proposal made by Fidel in speaking at the United Nations as president of the nonalined countries movement, to transfer to underdeveloped countries not less than 300 billion dollars as a contribution to development. The declaration states that this contribution should be in the form of financial and material resources and technical assistance in the 1980-90 decade, and not less than 25 billion should be distributed annually during the first three years.

In the declaration, containing 92 paragraphs and some 10,000 words, the ministers of the member countries express their concern over the worsening of the world economy and the uncooperative attitude of some developed countries. They state that collective self-sufficiency, sovereignty over raw materials and economic activities, industrial cooperation and social justice are the necessary elements for industrial development.

They state that the lack of adequate financial assistance from the industrialized countries and the world financial crisis are the main obstacles affecting the industrial development of the developing countries. They also express their concern over the growing foreign debt of the underdeveloped countries that prevents their economic progress. They point out the urgent need to create an international monetary system which keeps in mind the interests of the developing countries.

The declaration expresses regret for the continuing restrictions which prevent the underdeveloped countries from obtaining specialized technological knowledge and obtaining advanced technology under favorable and equitable conditions. The participants viewed with approval the establishment of the constitution of the UN Industrial Development Organization--UNIDO--as a specialized organization, but they regretted the insufficient financial resources at UNIDO's disposal to meet the needs of the developing countries in this area.

The final document of the Group of 77 ministerial meeting calls for the need to take steps and more active and concrete measures, collectively and individually, against all forms of oppression, exploitation and obstacles which go against the emancipation of the peoples. It stresses the duty to support and aid countries suffering from imperialism, colonialism and neocolonialism, foreign interference, aggressions or occupation of their territories.

Those attending the meeting approved the proposal to call the decade of the 1980s the decade for African industrial development, in an effort to mobilize assistance to industrialize the countries of that continent. They call solidarity and unity in the heart of the group an essential element which has a positive influence on their power and ability in collective negotiations for joint action in international decisions.

In the declaration the participants state that transnational enterprises should be subject to the laws, regulations and the exclusive jurisdiction of the host country. And they should respect the principle of sovereignty and abstain from all forms of interference in internal and external affairs.

Lastly the document expresses confidence in the UNIDO and the determination to support and reinforce it in its activities, guided by the developing countries' hopes for industrial development.

In his closing remarks Hector Rodriguez Llompart said that we can state with satisfaction and pride that this group of countries, which are so heterogeneous in composition but so united in the problems and goals for which we are struggling, have seen their unity strengthened and their efforts over these days bear fruit. He said that the debates enriched the scope and knowledge of common problems so that they would be able to decide on common positions at the UNIDO conference. Llompart concluded by stating that having accomplished our goals and obtained such satisfactory results from our joint work, this unity will facilitate the struggle for the right to development, the future and life.

'Wrangle' on Western Sahara

FL221751 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 22 Dec 79 FL

[Text] The Third World has called for a tremendous increase in aid from advanced nations to boost the industrialization of developing countries. The call was made at a ministerial conference in Havana, Cuba of the Group of 77 developing countries which now has 119 members.

The conference was marred in its closing stages by a wrangle over the Western Sahara. The gathering agreed after a dispute lasting most of the night to add Western Sahara to a list of peoples for whose heroic struggles to achieve liberation is expressed support. The proposal came from Algeria, backer of the Polisario Front, which is fighting to set up an independent Saharan state. The move was opposed lengthily by Morocco which now administers the former Spanish colony and whose troops are battling against the Polisario Front fighters. The most politicized section of the final declaration of the conference calls for urgent measures to end imperialism, colonialism and neocolonialism. It also expresses support for the liberation struggles of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa, Palestine and the Western Sahara.

CARLOS RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ MEETS WITH BAYBAKOV

FL221314 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Dec 79 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers and head of the Cuban side to the Cuban-Soviet intergovernmental committee for economic, scientific and technical cooperation, has met in Havana with Nikolay Baybakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the GOSPLAN. At the meeting they dealt with topics dealing with economic relations between the two countries and prospects for USSR cooperation in developing the Cuban economy. Present at the talks were Humberto Perez, vice president of the Council of Ministers who heads the Central Planning Board [JUCEPLAN], Severo Aguirre, Cuban ambassador to the USSR, and Miguel A. Figueras, JUCEPLAN vice president.

IRANIAN OFFICIAL DISCUSSES OIL PRICES, U.S. RELATIONS

FL211450 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1438 GMT 21 Dec 79 FL

[Text] As a member of OPEC, our country is making a supreme effort to contribute to the assistance to underdeveloped countries, (Reza Asepi), Iran's deputy minister of industry and mines, has told Radio Reloj. We can assert, he added, that Iran is the country that contributes the most to the underdeveloped nations assistance fund and oil resources since its total commitment to the OPEC fund to date amounts to more than $25 million.

Asked about oil prices, the Iranian deputy minister of industry and mines stressed that oil prices are being adjusted in keeping with the inflationary situation being generated by some industrialized countries and declining value of the dollar. But the most important thing that justifies price rises is that this resource is not renewable, he said.

The Iranian Government is aware that oil price rises affect the underdeveloped countries to a certain extent, (Reza Asepi) said. But price rises heretofore were made only on the refining and distribution stages, processes that in the hands of transnational corporations which really are the ones responsible for the oil price rises and caused the crisis, he stressed.

The Iranian deputy minister of industry and mines went on to express the pleasure of his government with the position adopted by the Mexican Government which, expressing the will of the people, did not allow the deposed shah to return to Mexico.

Elsewhere during the interview, (Reza Asepi) stressed that although economic relations have not been severed with the United States, the Iranian people are prepared for a confrontation if that were necessary. Due to the mismanagement of the previous government we do not have exact figures, but the funds of the Iranian people frozen by the United States are estimated between $5 billion and $9 billion, he told Radio Reloj.

When asked what Iran would do if the United States were to invade it, he replied that although there is no exportation of revolutions they are certain that the people and Islam, along with all progressive countries, will defend the Khomeyni government.

The deputy minister of industry and mines stressed that Iran will cope with its difficulties and that to this end it will count on its own resources and the market they represent. Therefore, they expect that the United States will not maintain its pressures for long. Lastly, he emphasized that Islam advocates elimination of taxes as well as halting the unequal distribution of wealth, so that it is not concentrated in a few hands.

GOVERNMENT REITERATES NONALINED SUPPORT FOR ZIMBABWIAN FRONT

FL221443 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Dec 79 FL

[Text] On behalf of the nonalined countries Cuba has reiterated at the United Nations the solidarity of the movement Cuba heads for this 3-year period with the new stage beginning in Rhodesia. Cuban delegate Ambassador Oscar Oramas spoke at the Security Council meeting which lifted the sanctions against Rhodesia that had been imposed in 1966 when a white minority issued a unilateral declaration of independence.

He pointed out that for the nonalined countries movement the decisions of the Patriotic Front represent the will of the Zimbabwian people. And just as they [the nonalined movement] contributed their unswerving support to the armed struggle for independence, they will continue to do so in this stage.

Oramas called for the Security Council to be vigilant in face of the threats from the Pretoria racist regime to militarily intervene in Zimbabwe. He said that the nonalined movement wants to call attention to the need to be vigilant so that British administrative authorities provide that people and the Patriotic Front with all the guarantees so that an open process will be scrupulously respected. Cuban Ambassador Oscar Oramas demanded that under no pretext should the elections be hampered and there should be no maneuver preventing the people from freely choosing a government which best represents their hopes.

COMMENTARY SCORES AGREEMENTS ON RHODESIA

FL251634 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Dec 79 FL

[Revolutionary Armed Forces and Interior Ministry combatants political information program commentary]

[Text] The problem of a peaceful solution to the Rhodesian conflict has reached a point where it is threatened by grave dangers, following the agreements adopted in prolonged negotiations held in London. There, after long discussions and diplomatic confrontations under British supervision, agreement was reached between that government, the Smith-Muzorewa regime and the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front. It was agreed to order a cease-fire, that is, to stop all military actions which, after a prolonged struggle, had given to the Zimbabwe patriots control over 72 percent of the country's territory.

The cessation of fighting is believed to have opened the way for the creation of conditions for holding general elections which, according to agreement reached in London, will be clean and honest. But the core of the entire problem in which the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front with its nearly 7,000 guerrilla members will find itself is whether the honesty of the elections can be guaranteed. The other problem is if the cease-fire will really be respected by the racist regime and the control force formed by 1,200 foreign troops, 800 of them British.

According to the London agreements, the Zimbabwe patriots will have to concentrate their forces in 16 or 17 bases. Those bases are located near the border with South Africa. In addition to this, it is well known that South Africa has troops operating at the service of Salisbury. Pretoria has even threatened to invade Rhodesia if its equally racist regime is threatened. Consequently, it would be wise to ask if South Africa will or will not respect the decreed cease-fire. There are other indications that lead one to ponder on the serious obstacles in the path of this attempted peaceful solution in Rhodesia.

Not even 24 hours had elapsed after the agreements were reached in London when the house of Robert Mugabe, copresident of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, on Rhodesian soil was machinegunned. Almost simultaneously, a group of racist agents apprehended 40 youths during the inauguration of local offices of the Zimbabwe African People's Union headed by Joshua Nkomo, who is also copresident of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front.

Great Britain will control with absolute powers the Rhodesian situation until a government is elected in that country. Great Britain will be represented by a governor and troops. On another part the racist army has remained intact and with more than 100 military installations. French helicopters of the (Puma) type have begun arriving in Rhodesia aboard U.S. air force transport aircraft for the forces supervising the cease-fire.

Already there is tension, terrorism and actions against the Zimbabwe patriots to the degree that two nephews of Robert Mugabe have been wounded by gunfire. Mugabe and Nkomo will soon go to Salisbury to prepare for the elections and will have to do so under a climate which will increasingly become more tense. The British historical affiliation to the Rhodesian racist regime is well known because that administration is the result of British colonization in that country, as is the case with apartheid in South Africa.

The United States is not foreign to this process. Several years ago Henry Kissinger initiated negotiations to save the Rhodesian regime and one cannot forget that in such attempts he had the cooperation of Great Britain. The Patriotic Front has continuously denounced London for remaining partial to the Salisbury racists which, besides many other differences, is the reason for the prolonged negotiations.

It is difficult to predict how the new phase will develop. High officials of the Smith-Muzorewa regime have even said that a victory of the Patriotic Front in the elections would be a motive for civil war. On another part, the concentration of the guerrilla members in locations considered to be vulnerable is another reason for concern. Now everything rides on each side scrupulously fulfilling their assigned responsibility. In that respect there is great doubt that the Rhodesian racists and their allies will act accordingly.

ACTIVITIES MARK VIETNAMESE ARMY ANNIVERSARY

Commemoration Ceremony

FL211134 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Dec 79 FL

[Text] The 35th founding anniversary of the Vietnamese People's Army has been commemorated by the Revolautionary Armed Forces [FAR] at a ceremony presided over by Div Gen Senen Casas Regueiro, member of the party Central Committee and first vice minister-chief of the FAR General Staff.

Nguyen Huu Ngo, Socialist Republic of Vietnam ambassador to Cuba, FAR vice ministers and Soviet military specialists who work in our country attended the commemoration.

EJT Minister's Speech

FL211218 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 21 Dec 79 FL

[Excerpt] Div Gen Rigoberto Garcia, member of the party Central Committee and vice minister-chief of the Youth Labor Army (EJT); and Col (Nghiem Xuan Hien), military, naval and air attache of the Vietnamese Embassy in our country, spoke at the ceremony.

Div Gen Rigoberto Garcia said over their 4,000 year history the Vietnamese people have never been forced to yield to any aggressor. Over the past 30 years, he said, they have sucessively defeated Japanese fascism, French colonialism, Yankee imperialism and now Chinese expansionism. He added that over this process of many years of struggle, a national military tradition was formed and the profound knowledge and great military skill of the Vietnamese People's Army were developed and accumulated.

After pointing out that the Vietnamese People's Army has reached its 35th anniversary stronger and more prestigious than ever, the FAR vice minister reiterated the warmest greeting and congratulation of our party, government, the FAR and all the Cuban people to the one-thousand times heroic people of Vietnam and particularly their party and People's Armed Forces of liberation, of which we are proud.

Raul Castro Attends Reception

FL221351 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 22 Dec 79 FL

[Text] Last night Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR], attended the reception hosted by Col (Nghiem Xuan Hien), army, navy and air attache of Vietnam to Cuba, in connection with the commemoration of the 35th anniversary of the founding of the People's Army of that fraternal country.

GDR RATIFIES TREATY ON JURIDICAL MATTERS

FL242004 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1924 GMT 24 Dec 79 FL

[Text] The GDR people's chamber has ratified the treaty on juridical matters signed with Cuba on 8 July last, PRENSA LATINA reports. The agreement, which will make it possible for the continued strengthening of friendship between Cuba and the GDR, stipulates that citizens of the two countries will enjoy the same legal rights in the two states while retaining their native citizenship.

NEWS AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH KAMPUCHEA

FL212151 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2118 GMT 21 Dec 79 FL

[Text] In Pnhom Penh, of people's Kampuchea an agreement has been signed between representatives of the news agencies (CPK) of Kampuchea and PRENSA LATINA. The document was signed by (Chai Souvanen), director of (CPK), and Miguel Rivero, head of the international desk of PRENSA LATINA. It establishes an exchange of information, photographs and reports.

FAR EXAMINES IDEOLOGICAL WORK

FL241858 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Dec 79 FL

[Text] A meeting to examine the fulfillment of the first party congress agreements and resolutions in the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] was held at the FAR Central House, chaired by Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC and FAR minister. The participants devoted their efforts to examining the fulfillment of the congress' agreements in the ideological field. PCC Secretariat member Antonio Perez Herrero; Division Generals Senen Casas Regueiro, FAR first vice minister and chief of general staff, and Sixto Batista Santana, vice minister and chief of the FAR Central Political Directorate, both members of the PCC Central Committee; and other FAR vice ministers and chiefs of armies also chaired the event.

The main report of the Political Directorate included a critical examination of all FAR tasks developed in the ideological field. Div Gen Sixto Batista read the main report. Div Gen Julio Casas Regueiro, alternate member of the PCC Central Committee and chief of the Eastern Army, submitted for the consideration of the participants in the meeting a proposal titled "The State of Ideological Work in Conformity With Laws, Orders and Regulations for the Observance of a Rigid Military Discipline." Another proposal was titled "Ideological Work Aimed at Forming Future FAR Officers in the Principles of a High Communist Consciousness; Unrestricted Loyalty to the Party and the Working Class in a High Sense of Socialist Patriotism and Proletarian Internationalism.

After reading the main report and the proposals, there were speeches by army Gen Raul Castro and several participants.

FMC MEETING ENDS; URGED TO MAINTAIN 'WAR READINESS'

FL241349 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1[illegible]3 GMT 24 Dec 79 FL

[Text] The meeting of the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC] in Santiago de Cuba Province to evaluate, elect and/or reelect officers has concluded after 2 days of work sessions. During the event the 196 delegates who will represent the province in the third congress were presented to the participants and the guidelines to be followed next year were announced.

In a special speech Vilma Espin praised the meeting's proceedings and said it was a reflection of the progress and reforms that have taken place in all aspects of the daily life of the Cuban women during the past 20 years of revolution.

In his closing remarks Jose Ramon Balaguer, member of the PCC Central Committee and first party secretary in the province, exhorted the FMC members to permanently maintain their war readiness.

NICOLAS GUILLEN RETURNS FROM TOUR OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES

FL251849 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Dec 79 FL

[Text] Nicolas Guillen, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists--UNEAC--has returned to Havana following a tour of Bulgaria, Romania and the GDR. Accompanied by Raul Rivero, member of the UNEAC Executive Committee, our national poet attended the festivities marking the 70th anniversary of antifacist writer Nikola Vaptsarov in Bulgaria.

In Romania, the writers union organized a ceremony of national tribute to Guillen which was chaired by Romanian Communist Party Central Committee member George Macovescu. In Berlin, capital of the GDR, Nicolas Guillen visited renowned German revolutionary writer Anna Seghers and met with Konrad Wolf, president of the Academy of Arts of the GDR. In both Bulgaria and Romania, Guillen and Rivero held talks with numerous artists and outstanding personalities of the culture sector.

GRENADA

SOVIET MISSION LEAVES AFTER TALKS ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION

FL241310 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 19 Dec 79 p 3 FL

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 18 Dec (CANA)--A three-man Soviet mission has left Grenada after one week of exploratory talks on economic cooperation between the two countries.

A government spokesman here said the discussions between the team and top Grenada officials concerned two-way trade and the possibility of Soviet technical and economic assistance to this country.

While here, the team met with Prime Minister Mr. Maurice Bishop and other government ministers, as well as representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, commercial banks and the boards of the nutmeg, cocoa and banana associations.

The Russian team comprised Mr. Romonald Tomberg, chief of the Latin American and African Department of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, Mr. Vasily Kruznov, deputy vice president in the Ministry of Agriculture and Mr. Michael Emelianor, chief in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

ST LUCIA

LOUISY REACTS TO ODLUM DEMAND; REFUSES TO RESIGN

PA251304 Paris AFP in English 0712 GMT 25 Dec 79 PA

[By Paul Saud]

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Dec 24 (AFP)--A political crisis is threatening this Caribbean island state today over the issue of the prime minister's post.

Last night Prime Minister Alan Louisy explained on radio and television why he will not resign as head of government and allow his deputy, George Odlum, to take over.

Mr Louisy suggested that Mr Odlum, a left-winger, was "scheming" to have this 238-square-mile island with just over 100,000 people come under the influence of governments opposed to the West.

He disclosed that Prime Minister Maurice Bishop of the Revolutionary Government of Grenada had met with Mr Odlum here. Mr Louisy also said that Mr Odlum had St Lucians undergoing military training in Grenada (where over 250 Cubans arrived three weeks ago to start construction work on an international airport).

The cabinet had given no approval and had no knowledge of Mr Odlum's decision to train bodyguards or anyone else, anywhere, the prime minister said. He also accused Mr Odlum of establishing diplomatic relations with certain countries without informing the cabinet.

The prime minister emphasized that while he was in no way opposed to normal relations with Cuba, he was certainly concerned about the haste with which Mr Odlum sought a relationship with the Castro government.

The statement was the prime minister's first real reaction to Mr Odlum's demand for him to step down by yearend. Mr Odlum says Mr Louisy agreed last July to serve as prime minister for only six months. The entire central executive of the ruling St Lucia Labour party is backing Mr Louisy. But it is not clear whether he can secure the support of the majority of MPs to retain his position.